



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oct. 10, 2011

MAYOR JERRY SANDERS
FACT SHEET

**COUNCIL APPROVAL PAVES WAY FOR FINANCING OF
CONVENTION CENTER EXPANSION**

The San Diego City Council today approved an amendment to the Municipal Code establishing a procedure for creating a Convention Center Facilities District – an important step toward securing funding for the 1 million-square-foot expansion of the city’s bayside convention facility.

“This vote is a critical step forward on an investment that will make San Diego much more competitive in the convention industry,” Mayor Jerry Sanders said. “This expansion will create thousands of permanent jobs for San Diegans and generate a projected \$15 million in additional hotel-room taxes that support fire and police protection, libraries and parks.”

Today’s 7-0 vote in favor of the code amendment does not establish the facilities district; it merely provides the framework for the city to establish a Convention Center Facilities District, which would levy fees on the owners of hotel properties within the city of San Diego.

City staff will now prepare the necessary legal documents to form the Convention Center Facilities District, which will require City Council approval. Formation of the district and imposition of the assessment also will require a two-thirds majority vote of the affected property owners.

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